

## COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

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Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor • Joan Henneberry, Executive Director

June 15, 2010

RE: Medicaid Parent Expansion and Application Assistance

Dear County and Medical Assistance Site Directors:

The Colorado Health Care Affordability Act (the Act), signed into law on April 21, 2009, is generating new revenue to expand public health insurance coverage to more Coloradans. One of the health care programs included in the Act is the Medicaid Parent Expansion. This public health insurance program, implemented on May 1, 2010, expanded coverage to parents in families with one or more dependent child (ren) on Medicaid with income from 60% to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) under 1931 Family Medicaid.

An estimated 43,000 Coloradans are potentially eligible for the expansion program. Many of the potentially eligible parents and some children are currently enrolled in the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP). These CICP clients will need to be transitioned into the Medicaid Parent Expansion. To assist counties and Medical Assistance (MA) sites manage the initial volume of cases requiring Medicaid eligibility processing for these current CICP clients, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) is offering additional resources.

The Department has entered into a short-term contract with the Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA) to assist with the application processing of CICP clients potentially eligible for the Medicaid Parent Expansion. Integrated Document Solutions (IDS), performing services for DPA, will be responsible for the application review, data entry, verification requests and authorizing eligibility for approval or denial in the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). Assistance through this project is for applicants applying only for Family Medicaid programs administered by the Department.

In order to expedite and streamline the transition of CICP clients to Medicaid the applicants, working with the CICP sites, will complete a Redetermination/ Reconsideration (RRR) package to update their existing Family Medicaid case. This is possible since these CICP clients must already have a child eligible for Medicaid in order to be eligible for the Medicaid Parent Expansion. CICP sites will forward the RRR package and required documentation to IDS for review and eligibility processing. IDS will transfer all authorized Medicaid program cases and case files to the appropriate county of residence for ongoing case maintenance in CBMS. Your help in identifying the appropriate contact from your county to receive transferred case files would be appreciated.

IDS will act as an MA site and will be responsible for the medical assistance cases as an independent entity. They will be contractually held accountable for all eligibility determinations made. IDS is

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responsible for any actions taken on existing county-assigned cases which may result in an adverse audit finding. Under State statute and rules, county departments of social/human services will not be held accountable for performance conducted by a medical assistance site.

Please submit contact information for your county to receive these cases and direct any questions to Cheryl Nelson at 303-866-3826 or cheryl.nelson@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Nancy Dolson

Manager, Safety Net Programs

cc: Antoinette Taranto Heather Hewitt